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PRESS RELEASE

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FIVE INDIVIDUALS CHARGED WITH FEDERAL NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN GOODS

WASHINGTON - Five individuals have been indicted by a federal grand jury in two separate indictments with drug trafficking and interstate transportation of stolen goods charges, U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor, Chief Cathy L. Lanier of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), and Edgar Domenech, Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), announced today.

In one six-count indictment, David Dawson, 39, of Hyattsville, MD, and Maurice Crutchfield, 35, of the 3000 block of Stanton Road, SE, Washington, D.C., are charged with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine, conspiracy to transport and/or receive stolen goods, unlawful use of a communication facility (telephone), and unlawful distribution of 50 grams or more of cocaine. Dawson was arraigned this afternoon in U.S. District Court before U.S. Magistrate Judge John Facciola.

In a second eleven-count indictment, Kenneth Posey, 54, of Landover, Maryland, John Haley, 61, of the 1000 block of Eastern Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C., and Ronald Haley, 56, also known as "Billy," of no fixed address, are also charged with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine, conspiracy to transport and/or receive stolen goods, unlawful use of a communication facility (telephone), and unlawful distribution of 50 grams or more of cocaine. Posey and Ronald Haley were also arraigned this afternoon before U.S. Magistrate Judge Facciola.

If convicted of the charges, the defendants face a penalty of ten years to life imprisonment.

Yesterday, law enforcement recovered during the execution of several search warrants more than two kilograms of powder cocaine; 500 grams of crack; 147 pounds of marijuana; packaging materials; approximately \$140,000 in cash, four firearms, ammunition and presumed stolen property.

In announcing the indictments, U.S. Attorney Taylor, MPD Chief Lanier, and ATF Special Agent in Charge Domenech praised the efforts of ATF Special Agents Douglas A. Quartetti, William T. Smith, and Leonard Codispot, and MPD Detectives Brian Wise, Thomas Stein and David Swinson, U.S. Attorney Office support personnel Sharon Newman and Diane Brashears, Assistant U.S. Attorneys Nancy Jackson and Arvind Lal, who secured the indictment and who will prosecute the matter at trial.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of criminal laws and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

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